(In lakh tonnes)

State	2006-07	2007-8	2008-09
Uttar Pradesh	0.49	5.46	31.37
Madhya Pradesh	0.00	0.57	24.10
Rajasthan	0.02	3.83	9.35
All India	92.26	111.27	226.82

The quantity of wheat procured by FCI and the State Agencies during Rabi Marketing Season (RMS) 2008-09 for the Central Pool was 226.82 lakh tonnes as against 111.27 lakh tonnes procured in RMS 2007-08.

In order to increase production of wheat, rice and coarse cereals, Centrally Sponsored Integrated Cereals Development Programme (ICDP) is in operation from October, 2000. The Government has also initiated two schemes for increasing foodgrains production including wheat and improving the agricultural growth in the country. These are (i) National Food Security Mission (NFSM) and (ii) Rashtriya Krishi Vikash Yojana (RKVY).

Export of wheat

†2058. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a proposal to export wheat in excess of consumption requirement of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the quantity of wheat available for export;

(c) whether it is also a fact that there would be less production of wheat at international level next year; and

(d) if so, the assessment in this regard, and whether India's requirement of wheat in 2009 has been estimated to be met by domestic resources?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) and (b) In view of comfortable situation of wheat stock in Central Pool, it has been decided by the Government to allow export of upto 20 lakh tonnes of wheat from Central Pool, on diplomatic basis to friendly countries. The Ministry of External Affairs will make payment to FCI, at economic cost.

(c) No, Sir. As per report dated 27.11.2008 of International Grains Council, the estimated global production of wheat for 2008-09 is 683 million tonnes, as against 610 million tonnes in 2007-08.

(d) The domestic demand and supply projection of wheat for 2008-09 and 2009-10 are as under:

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(In million tonnes)

Year	Demand	Supply
2008-09	72.72	75.67
2009-10	74.26	76.45

As per these projections, the requirement of wheat can be met from the domestic resources.

Storage facilities for foodgrains

2059.DR. M.A.M. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that public sector companies like Food Corporation of India (FCI) and Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC) do not have sufficient number of godowns to store foodgrains;

(b) if so, the total number of godowns and the storage capacity of each godown;

(c) whether it is a fact that huge quantity of foodgrains stored in the godowns of FCI and CWC was lost due to poor storage and highly deficient management;

(d) if so, the loss of foodgrains during last three years, year-wise; and

(e) the steps taken by the Central Government to provide better storage facilities in the godowns of FCI and CWC?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) No, Sir. There is sufficient storage capacity available with Food Corporation of India (FCI) and Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC) to store foodgrains. FCI have 1549 godowns with total storage capacity of 243.40 lakh tonnes (Owned & hired/Covered & CAP) against which total stocks held as on 31.10.2008 was 147.72 lakh tonnes. CWC have 492 godowns with total storage capacity of 98.15 lakh MTs against which stock held on 31.10.2008 •was 73.95 lakh MTs.

(b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. All godowns of FCI have been constructed as per ISI Code 607.1071 and likewise, CWC is storing foodgrains in its warehouses by adopting scientific methods. All godowns are being maintained properly. Hence, storage loss in FCI and CWC godowns is not attributed to poor storage and deficient management.

(e) Steps taken by the Central Government to provide better storage facilities in the godowns of FCI and CWC are:-

(i) All godowns are constructed as per specification and foodgrains are stored by adopting scientific storage practices.

(ii) Adequate dunnage material, fumigation covers and chemicals are provided in all the godowns.

(iii) Prophylactic and curative treatments are carried out regularly and timely for the control of insects and pests.